

CONTROLLER JOHN CHIANG

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

300 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814
916.445.2636
www.controller.ca.gov

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CONTACT: HALLYE JORDAN
916-445-2636

Chiang Appoints Christopher Thornberg to Economic Advisory Council

Economist Joins Panel of Experts Reporting California's Fiscal Health

SACRAMENTO – State Controller John Chiang today announced the appointment of Christopher Thornberg, an economist from Los Angeles, to his Council of Economic Advisors. Chiang created the group shortly after he took office this year to collect the best information possible on California's financial health and economic trends.

The Council advises the Controller on emerging strengths and vulnerabilities in California's economy, major issues that could affect the State's fiscal health, and how to make the best use of limited government revenues and resources.

"Dr. Thornberg's fiscal expertise and guidance will be very welcome at the table," said Controller Chiang. "His regional studies and research into the economic impact of historical events makes him uniquely qualified to evaluate a state as diverse as California."

Dr. Thornberg has spent more than a decade studying real estate dynamics, labor markets, regional economies, and business forecasting. He was involved in a number of special studies measuring the economic impact of major events including the NAFTA treaty, the California power crisis, California water transfer programs and the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He also authored economic outlooks for California, Los Angeles, and the East Bay while working for the UCLA Anderson Forecast.

After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo, Dr. Thornberg earned his doctorate at UCLA's Anderson School of Economics. He now works as a principal at Beacon Economics, a research and consulting firm he co-founded last year.

More information about the Controller's Council of Economic Advisors, their Curriculum Vitae and photos are available at www.sco.ca.gov/eo/controller/about/cea/.

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